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Published to advance the Science of cold-blooded vertebrates

A NEW RECORD FOR THE PROWFISH.

Zaprora silenus Jordan

In the Proceedings of the California Academy of Sciences of 1896, (page 203, pl. 20), Jordan described as new to Science a species of Scombroïd fish which constituted a new genus and family related to the *Icosteidae* but differing from it in having pharyngeal teeth.

In the addendum of the Fishes of North and Middle America, Jordan and Evermann (Bull. 47, U. S. Nat. Mus. Vol. 3, 1898, p. 2850, Vol. 4, plate CLII, fig. 1) it is again described, and it is stated that "only the type, 29 inches long, known."

In Fishes of Alaska, Evermann and Goldsborough, it is mentioned and figured, and the statement is made that it is "known only from 2 specimens, the type and one other now in the Provincial Museum at Victoria, both taken in Nanaimo Harbor, British Columbia."

In "Check List of the Fishes of Canada and Newfoundland," by Andrew Halkett, Naturalist, Department Marine and Fisheries, 1913, p. 77, it states that "only two specimens are known, one from Nanaimo, (the type) which is in the Provincial Museum, Victoria, and the other from the Straits near Victoria, Vancouver Island."

In April, 1914, Captain Andrew Weiding

caught on a halibut trawl in 65 fathoms of water in Lat. 58° 5' N., Long. 149° W., a specimen of this fish which was sent to the Bureau of Fisheries by Edwin Ripley, fish dealer of Seattle, Washington. As the present specimen, which was 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ inches in total length differed somewhat from the typical description, the following notes upon it are given: Standard length 74cm. Depth, 18.5 cm. Length of caudal peduncle, 4 cm. Depth of caudal peduncle, 7.2 cm. Pectoral rounded, its longest ray 11 cm. Caudal truncate, its longest ray, 11 cm. Pectoral with small scales on base on rays, extending (on middle ray) to 6.5 cm. Dorsal, anal and caudal scaled at base. Dorsal formula, LIV. Anal, 24. Head, 13.7 cm. Eye, 2.4 cm. Snout, 3cm. Max., 4.5 cm. Interorbital, 5.3 cm. Ground color, gray, lighter beneath, punctulated with black dots. Scales with bluish margins. Dorsal and anal without punctulations. Pectoral dark at base, with dark, distal portion light gray, margin blackish. Caudal whitish at edges and towards end, after margin blackish. Pores of head, white. Forehead grayish. Yellow spot in upper axil of pectoral. B. F. tag no. 9547.

WILLIAM C. KENDALL,
U. S. Bureau of Fisheries.

COMPARATIVE NUMBERS OF LIZARDS AND SNAKES ON DESERT.

Lizards are the most abundant form of desert reptile life. They greatly outnumber the snakes both in point of individuals and species. In the summer of 1913, the writer saw only three species of snakes on the Painted Desert, Arizona. These were the prairie rattlesnake (*Crotalus confluentus*), bull snake (*Pituophis sayi*), Arizona ribbon snake(?) (*Eutaenia megalops*).

Among the lizards which are abundant may be mentioned: Bailey's Collared Lizard, Leopard Lizard, Racerunners, Swifts and Horned Lizards.

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